

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND  
Legislative Session 2022, Legislative Day No. 18

Bill No. 77-22

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Mr. David Marks, Councilman

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By the County Council, October 17, 2022

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A BILL  
ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Metropolitan District – Connection Benefit Charges on Irregularly Shaped Lots

FOR the purpose of permitting certain exceptions to Metropolitan District connection benefit charges due to certain characteristics of an irregularly shaped lot; and generally relating to the Metropolitan District benefit charges.

BY repealing and re-enacting, with amendments

Sections 20-3-201 and 20-3-217  
Article 20 – Metropolitan District  
Title 3 – Charges and Assessments  
Subtitle 2 – Authorized Charges and Assessments  
Baltimore County Code, 2015

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.  
[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from bill.  
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

1           SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE  
2 COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Laws of Baltimore County read as follows:

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4                           ARTICLE 20 – METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

5                                   Title 3 – Charges and Assessments

6   Subtitle 2 – Authorized Charges and Assessments  
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8       § 20-3-201. Authorized; Basis.

9           (A) The county is hereby empowered and directed to make a proper and reasonable  
10 charge for connection with the water supply, sewerage, and drainage systems or parts thereof so  
11 to be constructed, purchased, or established, as provided in this article, to change and vary such  
12 connection charges from time to time in order to reflect cost, and, SUBJECT TO § 20-3-217(B)  
13 OF THIS SUBTITLE , to fix an annual benefit assessment on all properties, improved and  
14 unimproved, binding on a street, road, lane, alley, or right-of-way in which a water main, sewer,  
15 or drain has been built.

16           (B) The annual benefit assessment shall be made upon the front foot basis or other basis  
17 determined by the county to be just and reasonable, except in situations where property owners  
18 have agreed with the county on another or additional basis of assessments upon their property  
19 under the provisions of § 20-1-117 of this article.

20           (C) Such charges and benefit assessments shall be deposited to the construction fund to  
21 pay the expenses of constructing such water supply, sewerage, and drainage systems or parts  
22 thereof or to the general and operating fund to pay operating and other expenses from such fund,  
23 including principal of and interest on bonds in accordance with § 20-4-104 of this article.

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2     § 20-3-217. Benefit Charges on Irregularly Shaped Lots.

3             (A) In levying front foot benefit charges in cases of irregularly shaped lots binding upon  
4     a road, street, lane, alley, or right-of-way in which there has or is being constructed a water main  
5     or sewer opposite any point of such frontage, AND WITH THE EXCEPTION OF LOTS AS  
6     DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, the lots shall be assessed by the  
7     county for such frontage as they shall determine to be reasonable and just. Such assessment may  
8     be prorated on an annual basis as is provided for other assessments in §§ 20-3-201 through 20-3-  
9     214 of this subtitle.

10            (B) IF, BECAUSE OF TOPOGRAPHY, GEOGRAPHY, SOILS, DISTANCE TO  
11     IMPROVEMENT, CONSERVATION DESIGNATION, FLOOD, WATERSHED, OR OTHER  
12     CONDITION OF A LOT, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE WITHOUT GREAT EFFORT AND  
13     EXPENSE TO RECEIVE CONNECTION TO THE BENEFIT, SAID LOT IS NOT  
14     REQUIRED TO PAY CHARGES FOR SAID BENEFIT, UNLESS OR UNTIL THERE IS A  
15     TIME IN WHICH IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE LOT TO RECEIVE CONNECTION TO THE  
16     BENEFIT.

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18            SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this Act, having been passed by  
19     the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, shall take effect on December 6,  
20     2022.